CALFED Bay-Delta Program Workshop #2 September 14, 1995

Problem Statements

Water Supply Problems

1. Lack of public understanding or Agency understanding of system yield is not a problem. Public perception and understanding is the problem.

2. There should be a statement recognizing the interrelationship between Water Supply and Water Quality. Water professional consider water supply to be both quantity and quality.

3. A.2.a.3 and B.3 (Environmental Needs) These statements do not distinguish between in-Delta and out-of-Delta impacts.

4. B.1. Pipelines are also vulnerable due to earthquakes and flooding.

5. B.2.a.2 -- If users assume that firm yield is the base case unpredictability not a problem. Still could improve on maximizing supply.] not for Delta

6. Regarding the scope - the problems statements seems to make the Delta water supply problem responsible for whole state.

7. There is no channel capacity problem listed. Focus more on in-Delta problems.

8. Change the introduction . Acknowledge that resources have adapted to the system.

9. Add a box for upstream water needs on the Sacramento and tributaries to the problems and objectives.

10. The problem statement seems to say water supply is uncertain; should look to allocation needs. The problem is an allocation problem among users. Needs are uncertain among users.

11. The descriptors are too general. The true concerns expressed in Workshop 1 have been lost. There is no sense of the significance of the problems.

12. B.2.a.1 - Revise to state that agricultural water agencies cannot plan for efficient water use.

13. A.2.a. - There are shortages for agriculture in most years not just dry years.

14. The water supply problem is the balance mismatch between supplies and needs.

15. A.2.a.3. - The problem with environmental needs is the constraints south of the Delta rather than "export problem."

Problem Statements

16. "Needs" implies inflexibility - use "demands."

17. Problem Statement, 2nd line, instream demands have not grown.

Vulnerability Problems

1. The relationship of dredging to levee vulnerability is inaccurate. Dredging does not destabilize them, it rebuilds them.

2. Land subsidence drives the need for levees. List as a cause

3. Siltation reduces channel capacity, destabilizing the levees.

4. Failure of west Delta levees would cause a permanent burden on water supply.

5. Toxic spills are part of vulnerability.

ECOSYSTEM PROBLEMS

1. A.3.b. - Lack of open-ended sloughs is not a problem.

2. A.3.b. - Lack of habitat (quality) in the sloughs is the problem.

3. A.2. - Shaded riverine habitat - The problem is temperature control in the Delta and upstream.

4. A.6.a. - Exports, diversions, impoundments, and reintroduction the wrong place are causes of the lack of olfactory cues.

5. Woody debris is part of both riparian (B.3.) and Shaded riverine habitat (A.2).

5. Clarify the reasons for including species.

6. A.5.c. - Entrainment is a big problem; identify it more specifically.

7. There is a question about whether smelt need transport flows.

8. Historically there was a large population of beavers that constructed beavers in the Delta as humans do now.

9. Marsh restoration will encourage mosquitoes.

Problem Statements

10. A.7.b. - Toxics issue is serious (it is not a "may").

11. Toxics may not be as serious - recent studies show that toxic pulses do not coincide with fish populations.

12. Water hyacinth removal using 2,4-D is a problem.

13. The problem statement does not capture the loss of biodiversity or the loss of ecosystem integrity.

14. Need consistency in use of "may."

15. Use the phrase "food web" not "food chain.".

16. A problem is that introduced species have replaced the native food web species.

17. A.1 and A.1.a. - the inclusion of salmon as examples makes these statements inaccurate. Remove the examples.

18. In-channel Delta islands play a unique role.

19. The miles of channels in the Delta have increased.

20. Toxic levels in sediments are low.

21. Boating (turbulence, hydrocarbons, and wave wash) degrade the habitat.

22. Waterfowl and crane habitat types need to be clarified.

23. Don't use "may."

24. Some local structures can cause predation.

25. Don't lose sight of species and their needs.

WATER QUALITY PROBLEMS

1. Salt from the west side of the San Joaquin valley is a problem for users of Delta water.

2. Water quality of the supply source may make it impossible to meet industrial discharge standards.

Problem Statements

3. Clarify which water quality standards cross-reference to ecosystem quality.

4. Be more specific - mention THM's, bromides.

5. It is inappropriate to include vegetation under water quality.

6. Water quality standards fall into three categories -- (1) inadequate; (2) being violated; and (3) problems from the pre-standard era (mercury).

7. Is the problem insufficient water quality or that it must be "managed?"

8 Refer to the Bay-Delta consistently.

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Objectives

WATER SUPPLY OBJECTIVES

1. Add industrial water to major objectives.
2. Further qualify the objectives. The descriptions are too broad.
3. A.1.b. -- 1 & 2 say "maintain", 3 says "provide"; all should say "provide."
4. Add in-Delta urban supplies to A.1.
5. Solutions which facilitate supply/need balance.

VULNERABILITY OBJECTIVES

1. Dredging is not a cause of levee failure.
2. There is a conflict between levee maintenance and habitat maintenance.
3. There should be an objective for restoring the elevation of Delta islands (DWR/USGS efforts).
4. The objective should be to "manage" risk or "spread" the risk, not reduce it.
5. Relaxation of flood control rules would provide more water.

ECOSYSTEM OBJECTIVES

1. The Ecosystem objectives have too many boxes.
2. Habitat diversity and connectivity should be the focus at the top of the objectives.
3. The objectives should include more explicit statements of habitat function rather than solely spatial distribution.
4. The objective for transport flows is too narrow with only juvenile fish listed. Change to "aquatic organisms."
5. What is the basis for the objectives? Is there a consideration of the "do-ability" of the objectives?

Objectives

6. In the top objective box add phrasing to "substantially improve...habitats"

7. Increase all habitats. What is the degree of increase?

8. When do objectives become prioritized? When might some be eliminated?

9. What expertise will be involved in setting priorities for objectives or eliminating them?

10. Box C - Threatened and endangered species is not listed as part of objectives statement.

11. Clarify the tie between "restore" in the Mission Statement and "improve" in objectives box.

12. Reducing "entrainment" should be included as an objective. Also losses due to diversions and predation.

13. Keep objectives at a level that yields win-win solutions and allow agencies and negotiators flexibility. Avoid making the objectives too specific.

WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES

1. There is no delineation between in and out of Delta use. Water quality ties to export or in Delta use.

2. B.1. needs further refinement regarding source of water. In Southern California there is currently no beneficial use for agriculture for MWD water. What happens if that beneficial use is added to the MWD Charter?

3. Pumping for export causes draw down which affects pumping for in Delta users. It also affects salinity intrusion.

4. Change B.3. to include concepts of dilution, timing, and salt management. We can move salts around but can they be reduced?

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Mission Statement

1. Add language regarding "serving beneficial uses."
2. Phrase as "opportunities" for beneficial uses.
3. Ensure consistency - carry terms over from Mission to Objectives.
4. "Reduce conflicts"
5. "Establish Ecosystem health"
6. Recognize that the systems are dependent.
7. "Improve water management to better serve beneficial uses."
8. "Restore" implies to some historic level.
9. Specify how much (substantial).
10. Restoration means to restore health or function - not historical conditions.
11. Need "Restore and maintain."
12. "Ecosystem health" means acceptable levels of desirable biota.
13. "Provide adequate water quality" may result in degradation if we only try to meet standards. We should strive for what is achievable.
14. Add "no negative impacts from plan" to Mission.

Mission statement afternoon discussion

1. Change "restore" to "optimize."
2. Add "not cause impacts outside Bay-Delta system."
3. Add "better meet."
4. Add commas.
5. Change "better serve" to "ensure protection of."
6. We are not trying to improve all beneficial uses; only the specific ones at risk.
7. "Optimize" beneficial uses.

Mission Statement

8. Beneficial uses are all listed in existing codes.

9. Use "stakeholder interests" instead of beneficial uses to get away from legal definitions.

10. Use "for the" rather than "to better serve."

11. "Restore" has an historical connotation. Use "ensure", "reestablish", or "attain." How do we know when we are there?

12. Without scope focusing on San Francisco Bay, the Mission Statement does not reflect the direction.

13. If we use "restore it effectively captures the desire among fishermen to return to or "way of life."

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Planning Process

1. Set the detailed work into the content (context?) of the big picture.
2. Make sure ecosystem actions "add up" to healthy ecosystem.
3. How do we incorporate increasing population and exotic species into the long-term plan
4. Consider habitat conditions vs. habitat value
5. The links of the upper estuary to San Pablo Bay are strong; consider including San Pablo Bay in the scope of the problem.
6. Have fewer, broader objectives to maintain flexibility
7. The performance measures must reflect ecosystem functions.
8. Demonstration projects can help.
9. Can we define an institutional scope for the project?

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Causes and General Comments Bin

Causes

1. Water hyacinth degrades habitat.

2. Need a system to respond to levee failure.

BIN - General

1. Should "Drainage" fall under the Impact Issues? Isn't it also considered part of the problem?

BIN - Problem Statements

1. Maintain flexibility to respond to impacts due to global climate change.

2. Need long-term solution for levee problems.

3. Need to include non-habitat issues - biodiversity and integrity - in the problem statements. They are overarching concerns.

BIN - Objectives

1. Impacts on upstream/area of origin water supplies - overarching principle?

2. Mission Statement - the plan cannot have unacceptable impacts outside the Delta.

3. How will you rate level of risk? The Corps of Engineers has criteria. Or manage risk.

4. Too many boxes on ecosystem.

5. Ecosystem may be too detailed now.

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Workshop Debrief

Positives (what went well)	Changes
Registration	Format - more substance
Mix of people	Test sound system
Understanding of process	Ink remover
Minimal sweating	Mock workshop - pick date, small group
Microphone process	Plan each block of time and what we want out of it
Deeper substance	Energy & dynamics
Note taking	Interaction vs. dominating
Process presentation	Keeping people involved
Dick's presentation	Post-lunch blahs
Dick's facilitation	Actions - linkages & overlap
Nobody said POCA	Include opportunity for brainstorming
Set high expectations	
Tedium behind us	
Chocolate chip cookie promise	

Next Workshop

Breakout groups to take problems and causes then identify actions that maximize benefits to other resource areas.

Create a game or competition among the groups to see which group can maximize synergy.

How do you measure synergy? How would a group get credit for doing well?

Have each group work independently then work to improve the work of the others.

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